

# AG. WATER QUALITY ACT



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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

FUNDING ASSISTANCE

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

## DEAD ANIMAL DISPOSAL

### LIVESTOCK BMP #15



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**Description:**  
This BMP concerns a method of disposing of dead livestock that is legally and environmentally acceptable.

**AWQA Minimum Requirements:**  
Follow requirements of state law [KRS 257:160](#). When burying carcasses, avoid areas subject to flooding or closer than 100 feet to a stream, well, spring, lake, or sinkhole. When composting carcasses, composting shall be conducted in accordance with [ID-166 On-farm Composting of Animal Mortalities](#).

**Recommendations:**  
Plan ahead for livestock mortality events. Be prepared to manage mortalities by means of incineration, burial, rendering or composting. Manage mortalities within 48 hours, unless the

animal is stored in a cooler. If the death of an animal is suspicious or of an unknown cause that may pose a risk to other livestock, quarantine exposed livestock and contact State Veterinarian and the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. Contact tree trimmers or county solid waste programs for wood chips.

#### Technical References

- University Publications**
- [ID-167 On-Farm Disposal of Animal Mortalities](#)
  - [ID-166 On-Farm Composting of Animal Mortalities](#)
- USDA/NRCS Publications**
- [Practice Code 316 Animal Mortality Facility](#)
  - [Practice Code 317 Composting Facility](#)
- State/University Resources**
- [Kentucky Office of the State Veterinarian](#)
  - [University of Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory](#)

#### Funding Assistance Options

- State Cost Share**
- See your local Conservation District to [apply](#).
- Kentucky Ag. Development Fund (KADB/KAFC)**
- Select from available program options [here](#).
- NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**
- Select from available program options [here](#).

#### Important Considerations

- Water Quality Benefit (💧-💧💧💧💧): 💧
- Wildlife Benefits**
- Contact the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife's [Habitat Improvement Program](#) how to improve wildlife habitat with select BMPs (1-800-858-1549).